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NSC BRIEFING 11 February 1954

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NAVARRE'S LATEST VIEW OF  
INDOCHINA SITUATION

Ambassador Heath reports a conversation on Monday with Gen. Navarre, making the following points:

1. Navarre expects the next 3 months to be "difficult."
2. He obviously is less worried about losses per se than about their effect on opinion in France.
3. He agreed it was military "idiocy" to disperse forces to defend Luang Prabang, but recognized the political considerations involved.
4. He defended the "Atlante" clearing operation in Central Vietnam as essential to development of Navarre.

Plan.

DOCUMENT NO. 26

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐

☐ DECLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

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5. Navarre said that despite difficulties or reverses in next 3 months, he is convinced of soundness of his plan and sees no reason to alter it.
6. He did not see why he should not score decisive military victory in 1955.

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